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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
Tenth session
Bonn, 31 May - 11 June 1999
Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Arrangements have been made for the tenth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to be held at the Hotel Maritim, Bonn, from 31 May to 11 June 1999. The session is scheduled to be opened by the Chairman at 3 p.m. on Monday, 31 May 1999. The first part of the opening day will be used for informal consultations (see paragraphs 10 and 11 below).

2. The deadlines set by the decisions that constitute the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (decision 1/CP.4)[1] are ambitious and will demand intensive work by the SBSTA at each of its three sessions before the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 6). As time will be limited at its eleventh session, which will be held in conjunction with COP 5, the SBSTA should aim to arrive at conclusions on as many of the issues before it as possible at its tenth session.

II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

3. The provisional agenda for the tenth session of the SBSTA, proposed after consultation with the Chairman, is as follows:

1. Opening of the session.

[1] For the full texts of decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session, see document FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1.

2. Organizational matters:

   (a) Adoption of the agenda;
   (b) Organization of the work of the session.

3. Cooperation with relevant international organizations:

   (a) Scientific organizations;
   (b) United Nations bodies;
   (c) Other conventions.

4. National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention:

   (a) Guidelines for the preparation of national communications;
   (b) Review process related to greenhouse gas inventories;
   (c) Work programme on methodological issues related to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol.

5. Methodological issues:

   (a) Land-use, land-use change and forestry (decision 1/CP.3, paragraph 5 (a));
   (b) Emissions resulting from fuel used for international transportation;
   (c) Other matters.

6. Article 6 of the Convention: Education, training and public awareness.

7. Development and transfer of technologies.

8. Research and systematic observation.

9. Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention (decision 3/CP.3 and Articles 2.3 and 3.14 of the Kyoto Protocol): programme of work.

10. Procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol: organizational matters related to the joint working group.

11. Activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase.

12. Mechanisms pursuant to Articles 6, 12 and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol.

13. Report on the session.

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session

4. The tenth session of the SBSTA is scheduled to be opened by the Chairman at 3 p.m. on Monday, 31 May 1999.

2. Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda

5. The provisional agenda for the tenth session of the SBSTA is presented for adoption (see paragraph 3 above).

6. Items 9, 10, 11 and 12 have been included in the provisional agendas of both the SBSTA and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI).

7. Following consultations with the COP Bureau, it is proposed to defer further consideration of two items: the impact of single projects on emissions in the commitment period and the scientific and methodological aspects of the proposal by Brazil. These two items will be placed on the provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the SBSTA. They are also included in the current list of elements for the provisional agenda of COP 5 (see FCCC/SBI/1999/2, annex I). Meanwhile, the attention of Parties is drawn to document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.3. Parties may wish to make use of this document to prepare for their discussions on this issue at the eleventh session of the SBSTA and as a basis for any informal consultations that may be appropriate during the tenth session.

(b) Organization of the work of the session

(i) Arrangements on items 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the provisional agenda

8. It is proposed that consideration of item 9 of the provisional agenda be initiated in the SBI and followed by discussion in the SBSTA.

9. Items 10, 11 and 12 will be taken up initially in a joint meeting of the subsidiary bodies, scheduled for the morning of Tuesday, 1 June.

10. Informal consultations on item 10 will be arranged, as requested by decision 8/CP.4. These consultations will be held from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, 31 May, prior to the opening of the sessions of the subsidiary bodies.

11. The Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies will provide a briefing to Parties on the technical

workshop held on the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms pursuant to decision 7/CP.4 (Bonn, 9-15 April 1999) on Monday, 31 May, from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

(ii) Intergovernmental process

12. Discussions under sub-item 9 (a) of the provisional agenda of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on improving the intergovernmental process may have implications for the delivery of inputs to the SBSTA (see FCCC/SBI/1999/2).

(iii) Documentation

13. A list of documents relating to the provisional agenda, as well as other documents available at the session, is contained in annex I below.

(iv) Schedule

14. The scheduling of meetings for the session will be based on the availability of facilities during normal working hours, when services are available for two meetings of Convention bodies with interpretation from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. There will also be some facilities for informal meetings without interpretation. Delegations are urged to use these facilities fully by attending all meetings promptly at the scheduled time. After consultations with the Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies, an approach for the organization of work is suggested in annex II below.

3. Cooperation with relevant international organizations

(a) Scientific organizations

15. The Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will present an overview of the work of that body in an oral report. It is expected that his report will include information on: the third assessment report, technology transfer, land-use, land-use change and forestry, aviation and the global atmosphere, and other topics.

(b) United Nations bodies

16. As a follow-up to discussions held by the Executive Secretary during COP 4, the secretariat is undertaking consultations with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The objective of the consultations is to enhance cooperation with these bodies in a way which ensures that their climate change related activities, in particular their inputs to the UNFCCC process, are responsive to the needs of the process and

are organized coherently in a way which reflects the comparative advantage of each agency concerned.

17. Initially, this cooperative effort has focused on a response to decision 7/CP.4, whereby the COP requested the secretariat to draw upon relevant contributions from United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in convening technical workshops on the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms requested by that decision. The COP also requested the secretariat to prepare a plan for facilitating capacity-building. The secretariat therefore took the initiative of obtaining information on ongoing and planned (funded and unfunded) work in the area of the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms from several United Nations agencies, notably those mentioned above. These agencies met, upon the invitation of the secretariat, to identify key areas of expertise and experience on which their future focus of work would be based. This exchange of views enabled duplication to be minimized and areas of cooperation and collaboration to be identified and agreed upon. In concrete terms, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP and UNIDO are contributing to methodological and technical work on the mechanisms (e.g. by providing inputs to the technical workshop on the mechanisms mandated by decision 7/CP.4), as well as to the facilitation of capacity-building. In this context, a joint project proposal for seeking supplementary funding has been developed by the secretariat in close collaboration with these agencies.

18. The secretariat will make an oral report on its efforts, as described above, to promote cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies in the area of climate change.

(c) Other conventions

19. The COP, at the third plenary meeting of its fourth session, decided that issues of mutual concern to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) should be taken up by the subsidiary bodies at their tenth sessions. The Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies, in consultation with the rest of the Bureau, are to determine the allocation of those issues between the two subsidiary bodies. This responds to decisions by the Conference of the Parties of the CBD that invited consideration of certain matters by the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC. Furthermore, by decision 17/CP.4, paragraph 13, the COP took note of the cooperation between the Convention secretariat and the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and invited the Executive Secretary to consult with the heads of the secretariats of those Conventions and report to the SBI at its eleventh session. Since the cooperation between these three secretariats is largely driven by the substantive linkages between the phenomena addressed by the conventions they support, it may be useful for questions of cooperation to be addressed initially by the SBSTA at its tenth session, in the context of this agenda item. Representatives of the three secretariats will make statements to introduce this sub-item, focusing on substantive linkages. The administrative implications of any conclusions reached may be taken up by the SBI at its eleventh session, in responding to decision 17/CP.4, paragraph 13. At that time, the SBI will be informed of any initial

administrative consequences of the co-location of the UNCCD secretariat with that of the UNFCCC.

4. National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention

(a) Guidelines for the preparation of national communications

20. Pursuant to a request by the SBSTA at its eighth session (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/6, para. 40 (d)), the secretariat organized a technical workshop (Bonn, 9-11 December 1998) to develop proposals to resolve the methodological issues identified by Parties and by the secretariat while processing greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories included in second national communications. The report on part I of this first workshop, including an initial draft revised text of part I of the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Annex I Parties (UNFCCC guidelines), is contained in documents FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.1 and Add.1. Other information presented at the workshop, such as informal papers, may be found in documents FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.2 and FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.3. Parties may wish to make use of these documents for reference purposes. Submissions from Parties on the methodological issues considered at the workshop, and on the above-mentioned initial draft revised text, are contained in document FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.5.

21. Also in response to a request by the SBSTA at its eighth session, the secretariat organized a second technical workshop (Bonn, 17-19 March 1999) to assess the responses received to the questionnaire sent to Parties on clarifications, additions and/or amendments to the UNFCCC Guidelines (see FCCC/SBSTA/1998/6, para. 30 (a), (b) and (c)). Responses from Parties to this questionnaire are contained in document FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.2.

22. The SBSTA will have before it proposed clarifications, additions and amendments to the UNFCCC guidelines, which take into consideration information from both of the above-mentioned workshops. The proposed clarifications, additions and amendments are divided into two parts:

(a) Part I (FCCC/SB/1999/1) contains a draft revised text of the UNFCCC guidelines for inventory data, taking into account the deliberations at both above-mentioned workshops. Its addendum (FCCC/SB/1999/1/Add.1) contains a proposed common format for the electronic reporting of inventory data. It is intended that this common reporting format would form part of the revised inventory section of the UNFCCC guidelines;

(b) Part II (FCCC/SB/1999/1/Add.2) refers to other aspects of the UNFCCC guidelines, including sections on projections of greenhouse gases, policies and measures, and financial resources and transfer of technology.

23. The SBSTA may wish to consider these documents with a view to reaching agreement on the proposed revisions to the UNFCCC guidelines at this session. The SBSTA may wish to

provide information to the SBI on this matter to enable the COP to adopt revised guidelines at COP 5. The adoption of revised guidelines at COP 5 would provide Annex I Parties with adequate time to prepare their third national communications. Their adoption could also expedite the implementation of the work programme on methodological issues related to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol (to be considered under provisional agenda item 4(c)), as some of the elements covered in that work programme would build on the revised guidelines.

24. A representative of the IPCC will present an oral progress report on its work on uncertainty and good practices in inventory management.

(b) Review process related to greenhouse gas inventories

25. The SBSTA, at its ninth session, requested the secretariat to prepare an initial report on elements of a review process related to GHG inventories, including in-depth reviews, based on the issues identified at the technical workshops referred to in paragraphs 20 and 21 above and submissions from Parties, for consideration at its tenth session, with a view to forwarding relevant information to the SBI (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/9, para. 51 (f)). The SBSTA will have before it document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/3, on elements needed for the technical review of GHG inventories aimed at improving the accuracy, consistency, comparability and transparency of data. Submissions from Parties on this matter are contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.4.

26. The SBSTA may also wish to consider a technical paper on comparability of inventory data when considering this agenda item (FCCC/TP/1999/2).

27. Parties may wish to come prepared with suggestions for approaches to the technical review process of GHG inventories, including considerations on data comparisons. Parties may also wish to take these issues into account when considering possible revisions to the UNFCCC guidelines under provisional agenda item 4 (a).

28. The SBSTA may wish to provide relevant conclusions on this sub-item to the SBI to assist that body in its consideration of suggestions for the future review process under its provisional agenda item 3 (c), taking into account the views of Parties and the relevant requirements of the Kyoto Protocol.

(c) Work programme on methodological issues related to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol

29. At its ninth session, the SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a work programme on methodological issues related to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol to be considered at the tenth session, taking into account the activities of the IPCC and other relevant organizations, and in accordance with decision 8/CP.4 (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/9, para. 51 (h)). Parties may recall that the objective of this work programme is to formulate guidelines and modalities for the

implementation of Articles 5, 7 and 8, with a view to their subsequent adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its first session (COP/MOP 1), as required by the Protocol.

30. The work programme prepared by the secretariat in response to the above-mentioned mandate is contained in document FCCC/SB/1999/2. The work programme is proposed for consideration under this agenda item because the activities are closely related to, and may be viewed as an extension of, agenda items 4 (a) and 4 (b). The work programme is also reflected in the proposed programme budget for the next biennium (FCCC/SBI/1999/4). The SBSTA may wish to consider this document, with a view to adopting the work programme, with any modifications, at its tenth session. The SBSTA may wish to forward its conclusions to the SBI to enable that body to consider those elements relevant to Articles 7 and 8 (item 3 (c) of the SBI provisional agenda).

31. The SBSTA may wish to provide guidance to the secretariat on actions required to ensure the timely completion of the work programme by COP 6. The SBSTA may wish to consider the involvement of other relevant international organizations in the work programme. In addition, Parties may wish to note the relevance of the work programme to the consideration of procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol and the mechanisms pursuant to Articles 6, 12, and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol.

5. Methodological issues

(a) Land-use, land-use change and forestry (decision 1/CP.3, paragraph 5 (a))

32. The SBSTA, at its ninth session, requested the secretariat to organize a second SBSTA workshop, with participation by experts, including those engaged in the IPCC process, to focus on issues related to Article 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol, such as methodologies, uncertainties, research and data needs, and those identified in document FCCC/SBSTA/1998/INF.1 and in submissions from Parties, and to further elaborate on issues arising from the first workshop[2] (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/9, para. 34 (c)). A report on the second workshop (Indianapolis, 26-28 April 1999) will be before the SBSTA in document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.5.

33. In its decision 9/CP.4, the COP requested the SBSTA to consider, at its tenth session, the requirements necessary to fulfil the provisions of the first sentence of Article 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol. By its same decision, the COP requested the secretariat to compile, for consideration by the SBSTA at its tenth session, a list of policy and procedural issues associated with Article 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol, based on existing submissions, and any further submissions, by Parties. In response to this mandate, the secretariat has prepared document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/5.

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[2] Rome, 24-25 September 1998.

34. Submissions by Parties on all the issues mentioned above relating to Article 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol, including on issues to be considered at the second workshop, are contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.2 and Add.1.

35. The SBSTA may wish to consider the above-mentioned documents, with a view to continuing its deliberations and providing any further guidance to the secretariat that may be required.

36. A representative of the IPCC will provide the SBSTA with an oral progress report on the preparation of the special report on land-use, land-use change and forestry.

(b) Emissions resulting from fuel used for international transportation

37. In its decision 2/CP.3,[3] the COP urged the SBSTA to further elaborate on the inclusion of emissions based upon fuel sold to ships or aircraft engaged in international transport in the overall greenhouse gas inventories of Parties.

38. At its ninth session, the SBSTA requested the secretariat to provide it with information, at its tenth session, on emissions resulting from fuel sold to ships or aircraft engaged in international transport, taking into account the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). It also requested the secretariat to invite representatives of ICAO and IMO to report on their work to the SBSTA at its tenth session (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/9, para. 51 (i)).

39. In response to the above-mentioned request, the SBSTA will have before it document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.4, containing information on issues related to fuel sold to ships and aircraft engaged in international transport, with a focus on methods for the estimation of emissions from international transportation.

40. It is anticipated that representatives of ICAO and IMO will deliver statements on their activities. A representative of the IPCC may also make a presentation on the IPCC Special Report on Aviation and the Global Atmosphere, which is expected to be available at the session.

41. Under this item, the SBSTA will have an opportunity to share up-to-date information on emissions from international aviation and shipping and their impact, and to consider any methodological issues arising from these. Parties may wish to propose an approach, including a schedule, for reaching a decision on the allocation of these emissions in the overall greenhouse gas inventories of Parties.

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[3] For the full text of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its third session, see document FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1.

(c) Other matters

42. At its sixth session, the SBSTA noted and strongly supported the activities of UNEP on methods for assessing impacts of climate change and work on mitigation methods undertaken at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Collaborating Centre on Environment and Energy at Riso in Denmark (FCCC/SBSTA/1997/6, para. 28 (c)). Also, by its decision 9/CP.3, the COP requested the secretariat to continue its work on the development of methodologies for adaptation technologies, in particular decision tools to evaluate alternative adaptation strategies.

43. The SBSTA will have before it document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/4. The document includes an overview of two reports prepared by UNEP in response to the above-mentioned expression of support, namely:

(a) A Handbook on Methods for Climate Change Impact Assessment and Adaptation Strategies; and

(b) Economics of Greenhouse Gas Limitations: Methodological Guidelines.

(Parties will find electronic links to these documents on the secretariat Web site (http://www.unfccc.de).)

44. Document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/4 also summarizes the activities of the secretariat to compile and describe a list of decision tools to evaluate alternative adaptation strategies, including coastal zones, agriculture, water resources and human health. The secretariat will make available an informal paper on this subject.

45. The SBSTA may wish to take note of the information contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/4, and provide guidance on these matters.

6. Article 6 of the Convention: Education, training and public awareness

46. At its eighth session, the SBSTA invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 14 December 1998, their views on possible means of promoting the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention. The SBSTA also invited the secretariat to put forward proposals on how to integrate Article 6 into the work programme of the SBSTA, taking into account the submissions from Parties, for consideration at its tenth session. In this context, the SBSTA also requested the secretariat to explore the development of more rigorous reporting guidelines on Article 6 for national communications (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/6, para. 37 (g)).

47. To date, only three submissions have been received by the secretariat. These have been compiled into document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.1. It has not been possible for the secretariat, on the basis of this small number of submissions, to formulate proposals on the integration of Article 6 into the SBSTA work programme. The secretariat hopes that the SBSTA

will set a new date for Parties to submit their views on possible means of promoting the implementation of Article 6 and that a sufficient number of submissions will be received to permit the preparation of a work programme on this issue for the SBSTA.

48. Parties may wish to note that the issue of Annex I reporting guidelines on Article 6 for national communications will be addressed as part of ongoing discussions on clarifications, additions and/or amendments to the UNFCCC guidelines.

7. Development and transfer of technologies

49. By its decision 4/CP.4, the COP requested the Chairman of the SBSTA to establish a consultative process on the development and transfer of technologies to consider the list of issues and questions contained in the annex to that decision, as well as any additional issues and questions subsequently identified by Parties, and to make recommendations on how they should be addressed in order to achieve agreement on a framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance the implementation of Article 4.5 of the Convention. It also requested the Chairman of the SBSTA to report on the outcome of the consultative process to the SBSTA at its eleventh session with a view to recommending a decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session.

50. The SBSTA will have available a progress report on the development and transfer of technologies (FCCC/SBSTA/1999/2). The progress report provides information on the consultative process initiated by the Chairman of the SBSTA. The report also provides information on cooperation with the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD DAC) and information related to coastal adaptation technologies.

51. Submissions from Parties containing information on projects/programmes incorporating cooperative approaches to the transfer of technologies and proposals on how the issues and questions listed in the annex to decision 4/CP.4 should be addressed are contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.5 and Add.1. In addition, a technical paper on coastal adaptation technologies (FCCC/TP/1999/1) will be available at the session.

52. The SBSTA may wish to consider the initial steps taken with regard to the consultative process on the development and transfer of technologies, with a view to providing further guidance to the Chairman of the SBSTA. The SBSTA may also wish to provide additional guidance to the secretariat concerning its work on the development and transfer of technologies, including those aspects related to coastal adaptation technologies.

53. A representative of the IPCC will make an oral report on the status of preparation of the special report on methodological and technological issues in technology transfer.

8. Research and systematic observation

54. The COP, at its fourth session, adopted a decision aimed at strengthening the global observing systems for climate, including an invitation to the agencies participating in the Climate Agenda, through the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) secretariat, to undertake various activities to this end. The COP also requested the Convention secretariat to report results to the SBSTA at its tenth session (decision 14/CP.4).

55. A representative of the GCOS secretariat is expected to provide an oral report on the activities of that body, pursuant to decision 14/CP.4. As requested by the COP, the Convention secretariat will also provide an oral report under this item.

56. The SBSTA is invited to take note of the information presented and provide any further guidance that may be necessary on this issue.

9. Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention (decision 3/CP.3 and Articles 2.3 and 3.14 of the Kyoto Protocol): programme of work

57. The Conference of the Parties, at its fourth session, requested the SBI and the SBSTA to continue consideration of the implementation of Article 4.8 and 4.9 of the Convention at their tenth and eleventh sessions, and to report thereon to the Conference at its fifth session (decision 5/CP.4). The COP also decided to adopt and implement the programme of work set out in the annex to that decision, including the organization of an expert workshop by September 1999, under the guidance of the Chairman of the SBSTA. It further invited Parties to submit their views on the issues to be discussed at the expert workshop, and requested the SBI and the SBSTA, on the basis of these submissions, to define the terms of reference of the expert workshop at their tenth sessions. The submissions received are contained in document FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.6.

58. The SBI may wish to initiate deliberations on this item by considering the submissions received. It may wish to communicate to the SBSTA any views on the terms of reference of the expert workshop.

59. The SBSTA may then wish to consider the submissions and any views communicated by the SBI in defining the terms of reference of the expert workshop.

10. Procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol: organizational matters related to the joint working group

60. The COP, at its fourth session, established a joint working group, under the SBI and the SBSTA, to develop procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol (decision 8/CP.4). The group will be convened by a joint meeting of the SBI and SBSTA. The first meeting of the group will be held on Wednesday, 2 June from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Chairmen of the SBI and the SBSTA are consulting on a possible chairperson or

chairpersons for the joint working group.

61. The COP also requested the secretariat to facilitate a consultation on this matter immediately prior to the tenth sessions of the subsidiary bodies. This consultation will be held at the Hotel Maritim on Monday, 31 May, from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

62. The joint working group may wish to decide its agenda at its first meeting, based on the mandate contained in decision 8/CP.4, and be ready to conduct substantive discussions on this matter. The group may also wish to consider its work programme, bearing in mind that it will need to report, through the subsidiary bodies, on progress made to COP 5, which will establish, if necessary, an ad hoc working group. The joint working group will have before it a compilation of views submitted by Parties on matters relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol (FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.4).

11. Activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase

63. The COP, at its fourth session, requested the subsidiary bodies to address, at their tenth sessions, the review process of the pilot phase of activities implemented jointly (AIJ), with a view to the COP taking a conclusive decision on the pilot phase, and the progression beyond that, no later than the end of the present decade (decision 6/CP.4). Parties may consider taking such a decision at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties.

64. To facilitate this review process, Parties were invited to submit their views on the process and information on the experience gained and lessons learned with AIJ under the pilot phase. Further, Parties were again invited to provide inputs on their experience in using the uniform reporting format. The submissions received on these issues are contained in documents FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.1 and Add.1.

65. Parties will also have before them an update on AIJ under the pilot phase, including a list of reported activities (FCCC/SB/1999/INF.1). Parties may wish to take note of this information, and provide additional guidance to the secretariat for its work on this issue, as necessary.

12. Mechanisms pursuant to Articles 6, 12 and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol

66. By its decision 7/CP.4, the COP agreed on a work programme on the mechanisms under Articles 6, 12 and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol, including a list of elements annexed to that decision.

67. In the same decision, the COP identified steps to be taken in fulfilling this work programme in the period leading up to, and at, the tenth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, notably the convening of two technical workshops before 15 April 1999 (which were merged into one workshop and held at Bonn, 9-15 April 1999) and consideration of the following documents:

(a) A compilation of further proposals by Parties on principles, modalities, rules and

guidelines for the mechanisms (FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.3). Any additional submissions received will be issued as addenda;

(b) A plan for facilitating capacity-building on the mechanisms under decision 7/CP.4 (FCCC/SB/1999/4); and

(c) A note by the Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies containing a synthesis of proposals by Parties on matters addressed in decision 7/CP.4, paragraph 1 (FCCC/SB/1999/5).

The documents listed under (b) and (c) will reflect the proceedings of the technical workshop.

68. As noted in paragraph 11 above, the Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies will provide a briefing to Parties on the technical workshop held on the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms pursuant to decision 7/CP.4 (Bonn, 9-15 April 1999) on Monday, 31 May, from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

69. Parties may wish to take note of the proposals contained, and information provided, in the above-mentioned documents, and give further guidance to the Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies and the secretariat on modalities for advancing the work programme under decision 7/CP.4 in support of the intergovernmental process leading up to COP 6.

13. Report on the session

70. Because of the time that is likely to be needed for considering all items on the provisional agenda, a complete draft text of the report may not be available at the end of the session. The SBSTA may wish to adopt decisions or substantive conclusions, and authorize the Rapporteur to complete the report after the session with the guidance of the Chairman and the assistance of the secretariat. Subject to the availability of sufficient time for their translation, conclusions will be made available in all languages.

Annex I

DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE AT ITS TENTH SESSION

Documents prepared for the session

FCCC/SBSTA/1999/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the Executive Secretary
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/2	Development and transfer of technologies. Progress report
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/3	National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. Review process related to greenhouse gas inventories. Elements of a review process
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/4	Methodological issues. Information on impacts, adaptation and mitigation assessment methods
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/5	Methodological issues. Land-use, land-use change and forestry (decision 1/CP.3, paragraph 5(a)). List of policy and procedural issues associated with Article 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.1	National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. Guidelines for the preparation of national communications. Report on the workshop on methodological issues related to greenhouse gas inventories
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.1/Add.1	National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. Guidelines for the preparation of national communications. Report on the workshop on methodological issues related to greenhouse gas inventories. Addendum. Draft revised text of the UNFCCC guidelines for reporting inventory data by Annex I Parties
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.2	National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. Guidelines for the preparation of national communications. Comparison of greenhouse gas inventories submitted by Parties using own national methodologies with those obtained using the IPCC default methodologies

FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.3	National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. Guidelines for the preparation of national communications. Effects of recalculation of the greenhouse gas inventories of the base and subsequent years on assigned amounts and on emission limitation and reduction commitments of Annex I Parties
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.4	Methodological issues. Emissions resulting from fuel used for international transportation. Information on emissions resulting from fuel sold to ships or aircraft engaged in international transport
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.5	Methodological issues. Land-use, land-use change and forestry (decision 1/CP.3, paragraph 5). Report on the second SBSTA workshop on land-use, land-use change and forestry related to the Kyoto Protocol
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.1	Article 6 of the Convention: Education, training and public awareness. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.2 and Add.1	Methodological issues. Land-use, land-use change and forestry (decision 1/CP.3, paragraph 5(a)). Issues to be considered at the second SBSTA workshop on land-use, land-use change and forestry. Submissions from Parties on Article 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.3	Methodological issues. Analyses of the information provided by the delegation of Iceland. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.4	National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. Review process related to greenhouse gas inventories. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.5 and Add.1	Development and transfer of technologies. Projects and programmes incorporating cooperative approaches to the transfer of technologies and responses on how the issues and questions listed in the annex to decision 4/CP.4 should be addressed, as well as suggestions for additional issues and questions. Submissions from Parties

FCCC/SB/1999/1	Report on clarifications, additions and amendments to the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (including part I of the reporting guidelines on inventories)
FCCC/SB/1999/1/Add.1	Report on clarifications, additions and amendments to the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (including part I of the reporting guidelines on inventories). Addendum. Common reporting format
FCCC/SB/1999/1/Add.2	Report on clarifications, additions and amendments to the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (including part II of the reporting guidelines on other issues). Addendum. Policies and measures and projections, financial resources and transfer of technology, and other issues
FCCC/SB/1999/2 and Corr.1	Work programme on methodological issues related to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol
FCCC/SB/1999/4	Mechanisms pursuant to Articles 6, 12 and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol. Plan for facilitating capacity-building under decision 7/CP.4
FCCC/SB/1999/5	Mechanisms pursuant to Articles 6, 12 and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol. Synthesis of proposals by Parties on principles, modalities, rules and guidelines. Note by the Chairmen
FCCC/SB/1999/INF.1	Activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase. Update on activities implemented jointly
FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.1 and Add.1	Views on the review process of activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase and information on experience gained and lessons learned, including on the uniform reporting format. Compilation of submissions from Parties
FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.2	Clarifications, additions and/or amendments to the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, the scope of the third national communications, and the scope and modalities of the review process for the third national communications including in-depth reviews, in the context of the Kyoto Protocol. Submissions from Parties

FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.3	Principles, modalities, rules and guidelines for the mechanisms under Articles 6, 12 and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.4	Procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.5	Comments from Parties on methodological issues related to possible clarifications, additions and amendments to the inventory section of the revised guidelines for tl.e preparation of national communications by Annex I Parties
FCCC/SB/1999/MiSC.6	Views on issues to be discussed in the expert workshop on the implementation of Article 4.8 and 4.9 of the Convention (decision 3/CP.3 and Articles 2.3 and 3.14 of the Kyoto Protocol). Submissions from Parties

Other documents for the session

FCCC/CP/1998/16	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fourth session, held at Buenos Aires from 2 to 14 November 1998. Part One: Proceedings
FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fourth session, held at Buenos Aires from 2 to 14 November 1998. Addendum. Part Two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session
FCCC/SBSTA/1998/9	Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its ninth session, Buenos Aires, 3-10 November 1998
FCCC/SBSTA/1998/6	Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its eighth session, Bonn, 2-12 June 1998
FCCC/SBSTA/1997/6	Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technlogical Advice on its sixth session, Bonn, 28 July - 5 August 1997
FCCC/TP/1999/1	Technical paper: Coastal adaptation technologies
FCCC/TP/1999/2	Technical paper: Report on data comparisons

Documents available for reference only

FCCC/CP/1998/6	Development and transfer of technologies (decision 13/CP.1). Progress report on transfer of technology: draft work programme
FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its third session, held at Kyoto from 1 to 11 December 1997. Part Two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its third session
FCCC/CP/1996/15/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its second session, held at Geneva from 8 to 19 July 1996. Part Two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its second session
FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session, held at Berlin from 28 March to 7 April 1995. Part Two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its first session
FCCC/SBSTA/1998/INF.1	Methodological issues. Issues related to land-use change and forestry

Annex II

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF WORK FOR THE TENTH SESSIONS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES

	Monday 31 May	**Tuesday 1 June**	**Wednesday 2 June**	**Thursday 3 June**	**Friday 4 June**
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	*Consultations on compliance (9:30 a.m. - 12 a.m.)* *Briefing by the Chairmen on the technical workshops on the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms (12 -1 p.m.)*	[JOINT MEETING] SBSTA items 10, 11 and 12 SBI Items 6, 7 and 8	SBSTA item 7 SBI items 3, 10, and 11 (*continued, as necessary*)	*Informals*	SBSTA item 9 *Informals*
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	SBSTA items 1, 2, 3, 6 and 8 SBI items 1, 2, 4 and 5 *(4 p.m-6 p.m)*	SBSTA items 4 and 5 SBI items 4 and 6 (*continued, as necessary*) and 9, 10, and 11	Joint working group on compliance *Informals*	*Informals*	Joint working group on compliance *Informals*

Note: --- = parallel meetings

(continued)

	Monday 7 June	Tuesday 8 June	Wednesday 9 June	Thursday 10 June	Friday 11 June
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	SBSTA items 3, 4 (b), 5, 6 and 8	*Informals*	[JOINT MEETING] SBSTA items 10, 11 and 12 SBI items 6, 7 and 8	Joint working group on compliance	[JOINT MEETING] SBSTA items 10, 11 and 12 SBI items 6, 7 and 8
			SBSTA items 4 (a), 7 and 9* *(and outstanding items, as necessary)*		
	Informals		SBI items 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, and 11*	*Informals*	
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	*Informals*	Joint working group on compliance	*Informals*	*Informals*	SBSTA item 13
		Informals			SBI item 12

Note: --- = parallel meetings

* The SBI and the SBSTA will take up these items under their respective agendas after the joint meeting, if there is time.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Scope of the note

1. This note provides information on the status of the consultative process. It also provides information on four specific tasks relating to the completion of the ongoing activities of the secretariat for 1999 as defined in document FCCC/CP/1998/6. The tasks relate to: the draft work programme; adaptation technologies; cooperation with the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD/DAC); and the revision of guidelines for the reporting of information on financial resources and the transfer of technology in national communications from Parties included in Annex II to the Convention (Annex II Parties). In addition, the specific mandates referring to each of the issues are reported below before the discussion.

2. Background information relevant to the issues discussed in this note can also be found in the following documents: the report of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session (FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1), the work programme for the current biennium (FCCC/CP/1997/INF.1), the document containing the proposed programme budget of the Convention for the biennium 2000-2001 (FCCC/SBI/1999/4/Add.1), a technical paper on coastal adaptation technologies (FCCC/TP/1999/1) and the report on clarifications, additions, and amendments to the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) (FCCC/SB/1999/1/Add.2). Parties may also wish to consider the previous progress reports on these issues (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/5 and FCCC/CP/1998/6).

B. Possible action by the SBSTA

3. The SBSTA may wish to consider the information in this note and,

(a) Provide guidance to the Chairman concerning the approach to the consultative process referred to in decision 4/CP.4;[1] and

(b) Provide guidance to the secretariat with regard to its work on adaptation technologies, particularly coastal zone technologies (see FCCC/TP/1999/1).

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[1] For the full texts of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its second, third and fourth sessions, see documents FCCC/CP/1996/15/Add.1, FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, and FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1, respectively.

II. CONSULTATIVE PROCESS REFERRED TO IN DECISION 4/CP.4

A. Specific mandate

4. By its decision 4/CP.4, the Conference of the Parties requested the Chairman of the SBSTA to establish a consultative process to consider the list of issues and questions contained in the annex to this decision, as well as any additional issues and questions subsequently identified by Parties, and to make recommendations on how they should be addressed in order to achieve agreement on a framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance implementation of Article 4.5 of the Convention.

5. The COP further requested the Chairman of the SBSTA to report on the outcome of the consultative process to the SBSTA at its eleventh session, with a view to recommending a decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session.

B. Discussion

6. The Chairman of the SBSTA presented a preliminary approach for such a process to the Bureau members at their meeting at Bonn on 8 February 1999, and sought their advice on how to proceed.

7. Following the advice from the Bureau, the Chairman, with the help of the secretariat, has taken the initial step of forming an informal group to assist the Chairman in designing and conducting the consultative process. The group has been consulting mainly by e-mail and may meet on the margins of other meetings.

8. The consultation process will consist of three or four core workshops, depending on available resources. It will seek to determine the problems faced by governments and industry in developing countries, the activities that are currently under way with the support of governments and international organizations and what is needed to address the problems, issues and questions contained in the annex to decision 4/CP.4.

9. Workshops might be held in Asia, Africa and Latin America in cooperation with other United Nations organizations, donors, and/or business organizations, depending upon the availability of resources. In addition, an inter-sectorial workshop, for example, on currently available adaptation technologies, might be considered.

10. It would be highly desirable to take advantage of any currently planned conferences on this subject. To this extent, the secretariat is seeking information about relevant technology events planned for 1999 and ending in 2000.

11. The secretariat has received offers of financial assistance for the organization of regional workshops from Australia, the European Union, the Netherlands, and the United States of America. Several other countries are also considering potential contributions to the process.

12. The regional workshops will also serve as conduits through which information generated by non-UNFCCC endorsed meetings could be channelled. The specific agendas for the workshops could have common elements, but could also be tailored to the unique situations in each region. The participants will be representatives of governments, business and non-governmental organizations as well as lead authors of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The number of participants will depend on the availability of funds.

13. Given the available time and the competing events, it may not be possible to complete a series of workshops by the eleventh session of the SBSTA. It is desirable, however, to complete the regional workshops, as early as possible in the year 2000, to allow information from the process to be considered by the SBSTA.

III. DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME

A. Specific mandate

14. By its decision 4/CP.4, the Conference of the Parties requested the secretariat, in preparing the budget for the next biennium, to give priority to activities concerned with building the capacity of Parties to enhance the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, as defined in document FCCC/CP/1998/6, including assessing and synthesizing information on environmentally sound technologies and know-how, and, in doing so, to identify specific tasks.

B. Discussion

15. The secretariat has prepared a proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001, taking into account the above mandate and the proposed activities described in document FCCC/CP/1998/6. The programme budget includes a subprogramme on technology, whose work programme focuses on five specific tasks: (1) providing organizational support to the transfer of technology consultative process; (2) making available to all Parties substantive information on technology transfer activities; (3) responding to the needs of Parties for information on adaptation technologies and ways and means to limit HFCs; (4) enhancing the capacity of developing countries to address barriers to the transfer of technology; and (5) implementing a technology inventory system that serves multiple users, including Parties seeking information for projects supported by the private sector, the Global Environment Facility, bilateral aid and other mechanisms. Implementation of this programme of work will depend upon the approval of the required resources and the availability of supplementary voluntary contributions for some activities.

16. Parties may wish to refer to document FCCC/SBI/1999/4/Add. 1, for additional and more complete information.

IV. ADAPTATION TECHNOLOGIES

A. Specific mandate

17. At its second and third sessions, by its decisions 7/CP.2 and 9/CP.3 respectively, the Conference of the Parties requested the secretariat to prepare reports on adaptation technologies and to continue its work on the synthesis and dissemination of information on environmentally sound technologies and know-how conducive to mitigating, and adapting to, climate change.

18. At its eighth session, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), encouraged the secretariat to continue its work on adaptation technologies. The topics were identified at a UNFCCC expert meeting on adaptation technologies held in conjunction with an IPCC meeting on adaptation in Amsterdam from 20 to 22 March 1997 (FCCC/SB/1997/3) and were included in the programme for the current biennium budget of the secretariat (FCCC/CP/1997/INF.1).

B. Discussion

19. The secretariat has prepared a technical paper on coastal adaptation technologies (FCCC/TP/1999/1). The paper expands on the consideration of coastal zone adaptation technologies developed in an earlier technical paper, which provided an overview of adaptation technologies (FCCC/TP/1997/3).

20. A draft of the technical paper was reviewed at an expert meeting with participants from the roster on coastal adaptation technologies, arranged by the secretariat and held in Bonn on March 22 and 23 1999. Participants at the meeting included coastal engineering experts from developing countries (Argentina, Barbados, China, Fiji, Sierra Leone and Tanzania) as well as from developed countries (the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America), including a lead author of the coastal adaptation technologies chapter of the IPCC *Special Report on Methodological and Technological Issues in Technology Transfer*. A report on the meeting is contained in an annex to the technical paper, document FCCC/TP/1999/1.

21. The technical paper on coastal adaptation technologies:

(a) Compiles and synthesizes the reporting of coastal impacts and adaptation options in national communications;

(b) Describes coastal adaptation technologies that are in use or have been demonstrated;

(c) Identifies coastal adaptation technology needs;

(d) Describes how these technologies are developed and transferred; and

(e) Identifies barriers to the acceleration of the development and transfer of coastal adaptation technologies.

22. In addition, the paper identifies a range of options to accelerate and sustain the development and transfer of coastal adaptation technologies. These options could be considered by the spectrum of stakeholders in the coastal zone, including aid agencies, multilateral and regional development banks, national and regional governments as well as the private sector.

C. Other activities related to adaptation technologies

23. The secretariat has also compiled information on decision tools to evaluate alternative adaptation strategies as part of the programme of work on methodologies (FCCC/CP/1997/INF.1). Decision tools, models as well as data gathering and collection technologies are themselves important adaptation technologies. Such technologies facilitate the planning, implementation and monitoring of adaptation strategies.

24. The secretariat has initiated informal consultations with the World Health Organization as well as with representatives of pharmaceutical companies and respective manufacturers' associations to assess information on adaptation technologies related to human health. The secretariat will continue consultations with a view to providing a technical paper on this subject to the SBSTA at a future session.

V. COOPERATION WITH OECD/DAC

A. Specific mandate

25. The SBSTA, at its sixth session, encouraged the secretariat to extend its cooperation with other organizations such as the World Bank and the OECD, with the aim of, *inter alia*, improving the availability of climate relevant data. In this context, it noted that the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD is cooperating with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in order to introduce a specific biodiversity "marker" in their statistics, and considered the need for similar information regarding climate change projects (FCCC/SBSTA/1997/6).

B. Discussion

26. On the basis of the above mandate the secretariat has approached the OECD/DAC secretariat in order to explore the possibility of introducing a climate change "marker" in their

reporting system. A similar initiative has been carried out by the secretariats of CBD and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

27. Under each of the conventions, developed country Parties have undertaken to report on measures taken to assist developing countries to implement the conventions, including the provision of financial resources. This information is required, for example, in the case of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, for the guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I.

28. The secretariats of the conventions have requested the DAC to examine whether the relevant data could be obtained through routine reporting to the DAC by OECD countries. The DAC secretariat and its Working Party on Statistics have expressed their willingness to collaborate. The DAC secretariat is prepared to serve as a focal point for collecting this type of information, should the Parties deem it appropriate, after completion of the pilot study described below, so as to minimize the reporting burden for donors.

29. To this end the DAC, in cooperation with the secretariats of the conventions, has launched a pilot study on aid targeting the objectives of the Rio conventions. The pilot study will cover bilateral ODA commitments in 1998. Reporting Parties have been requested to classify and score individual aid activities against three new markers referring to the above conventions. The pilot study will be undertaken in 1999, and its results are expected to be considered by OECD/DAC in the year 2000.

30. The secretariat intends to provide Parties with preliminary results, using the data obtained by the DAC or the pilot study, at COP 5. However, it might be several years before routine data from any revised marker system developed by the DAC will be available.

VI. UNFCCC GUIDELINES ON FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

A. Specific mandate

31. The SBSTA, at its seventh session, took note of the need for better information with respect to finance and transfer of technology and agreed to consider at its ninth session what, if any, additions and/or amendments to the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Annex II Parties would be required. It invited Parties to submit to the secretariat by 15 March 1998 their views on reporting information on finance and transfer of technology and requested the secretariat to compile them for consideration at its eighth session. It also urged the secretariat to explore other means of obtaining such information, including in-depth reviews of national communications (FCCC/SBSTA/1997/14).

32. The SBSTA, at its eighth session, requested the secretariat to send a questionnaire to

Parties on clarifications, additions and/or amendments to the revised guidelines and requested Parties to provide submissions on this issue by 1 February 1999. The SBSTA further requested the secretariat to organize a workshop, with the participation of representatives from Parties, to assess the responses to the questionnaire and to prepare a paper on the results of this workshop for consideration at its tenth session, with the aim of proposing any necessary clarifications, additions and/or amendments to the UNFCCC guidelines at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/6).

33. At its ninth session, the SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a report, which addresses clarifications, additions and amendments to the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Annex I Parties, for its tenth session (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/9).

B. Discussion

34. Parties may wish to note that ways are being considered to improve the reporting of information on financial resources and transfer of technology in national communications of Annex II Parties, as part of a process to revise the reporting guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. Also, submissions from Parties to the above questionnaire, including information on reporting on financial resources and transfer of technology, are contained in document FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.2.

35. The issues of financial resources and transfer of technology were considered at a workshop organized by the secretariat on the revision of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, held in Bonn from 17 to 19 March 1999. The secretariat, on the basis of information collected from national communications (FCCC/CP/1998/11/Add.1), submissions by Parties (FCCC/SB/1999/MISC. 2), and in-depth reviews, prepared a working paper for the workshop dealing exclusively with these aspects. In this paper, the secretariat has identified problem areas in reporting by Parties and has provided a number of suggestions for solving them, and/or modifying the existing guidelines and reporting format.

36. The draft guidelines for reporting by Annex II Parties on financial resources and transfer of technology, developed on the basis of information from Parties and suggestions made at the workshop, can be found in document FCCC/SB/1999/1/Add. 2.

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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARTIES INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION

REVIEW PROCESS RELATED TO GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORIES

Elements of a review process

Note by the secretariat

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Mandate

1. At its ninth session, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) requested the secretariat to prepare an initial report on elements of a review process related to greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, including in-depth reviews, based on the issues identified at two relevant workshops and submissions from Parties, for consideration at its tenth session, with a view to forwarding relevant information to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI). The SBSTA also invited Parties to submit information related to elements of a review process by 1 March 1999 (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/9, para. 51 (f)).

2. By its decision 11/CP.4, the Conference of the Parties (COP), at its fourth session, requested its subsidiary bodies to consider the scope, modalities and options for the review process, including the review of annual inventory information, and the need for more thorough consideration of national circumstances and reporting requirements under the Kyoto Protocol, with a view to adopting revised guidelines for the review process at the sixth session of the COP (FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1).

3. At its ninth session, the SBI began its discussion on how the future in-depth review process could be conducted, reported and considered on the basis of document FCCC/CP/1998/4. The SBI invited Parties to submit, by 1 March 1999, their views on the scope and the modalities of the review process for the third national communications, including in-depth reviews, in the context of the Kyoto Protocol. The SBI requested the secretariat to prepare, for consideration at its tenth session, a document containing suggestions for the future review process, taking into account the views of Parties and the relevant requirements of the Kyoto Protocol (FCCC/SBI/1998/7, para. 21 (d)).

4. The SBSTA, at its ninth session, requested the secretariat to prepare a work programme on methodological issues related to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol for consideration at its tenth session (FCCC/SBSTA/1998/9, para. 51 (h)).

B. Scope of the note

5. The elements of the review process related to GHG inventories described in this note are proposed by the secretariat, drawing on technical advice received from an expert workshop held at Bonn, 9-11 December 1998, with the participation of 79 experts from the roster on methodologies and from relevant international organizations (FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.1), and on submissions from Parties (FCCC/SB/1999/MISC.4). It responds to the SBSTA request for an initial report on elements of a review process related to greenhouse gas inventories mentioned in paragraph 1. This note addresses only the technical aspects of reviewing GHG inventories. Other broader issues related to the future review process are discussed in document FCCC/SBI/1999/6. For this reason, it would be advisable to read these documents together.

C. Possible action by the SBSTA

6. The SBSTA may wish to consider the information in this note and:

(a) Provide guidance on the following elements of a UNFCCC review process:

(i) Initial checking of inventories and reporting on the status of submissions;
(ii) Annual synthesis and assessment reports;
(iii) Individual technical reviews of inventories and reports; and

(b) Request the secretariat to prepare guidelines for the technical review of GHG inventories submitted by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties), taking account of submissions from Parties and inputs from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), for consideration at the eleventh session of the SBSTA and adoption by the COP at its fifth session.

7. The SBSTA may also wish to forward information to the SBI and invite it to consider the implementation aspects of a technical review process, including the timing of such review.

II. ELEMENTS OF A REVIEW PROCESS FOR GHG INVENTORIES

A. Background

Existing review practices

8. Some practices related to a technical review process are already in place under the Convention. The Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, referred to in this note as the IPCC Guidelines, encourage Parties to verify their inventories prior to submission and provide suggestions as to how Parties may do this. However, most Parties have not reported information on such practices.

9. The compilation and synthesis of Annex I Party national communications is prepared by the secretariat and this also involves some elements of technical review. Errors, omissions, inconsistencies and methodological problems are identified as part of this process, in relation to all or to individual Parties. This process is non-controversial as it does not challenge the information provided by Parties. Neither the quality of the inventory information nor the reliability of emission and removal estimates are assessed.

10. Also, the existing in-depth review process for Annex I Party national communications, created according to decision 2/CP.1, includes the review of key qualitative information and quantitative data, including GHG inventories. To date, the process has been useful in improving the quality of GHG inventories. However, the effectiveness of these reviews has been limited, due to the fact that only one inventory expert generally participates in each team, that inventory

discussions last one day at most, and that only limited preparatory work is done prior to reviews. In addition, the reviews aim to clarify methodological or reporting issues rather than check GHG inventories or assess the information provided by individual Parties.

Ongoing work related to the technical review of GHG inventories

11. Any improved technical review process begins with improved GHG inventories. To address this issue, the following activities have been undertaken:

(a) The secretariat has prepared draft guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (including part I of the reporting guidelines on inventories), referred to in this note as the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories, based on views from Parties and discussions at two workshops attended by more than 100 experts (Bonn, 9-11 December 1998 and 17-19 March 1999) (see FCCC/SB/1999/1 and Add.1). It is expected that these guidelines, which may help to improve the reporting of GHG inventories, will be adopted by the COP at its fifth session;

(b) The IPCC Programme[1] is conducting work on uncertainties and good practices in inventory management. It is expected that the results of this work, which may provide a basis for improving the preparation, reporting and review of GHG inventories, will be available for consideration by the SBSTA at its twelfth session.

B. Proposed approach to review of GHG inventories

12. The goal of technical reviews of GHG inventories is to assist Parties in preparing the highest quality information necessary to fulfil their obligations under the Convention.

13. The elements of a technical review process for inventory information, as presented here, are based on the concept of a GHG inventory life cycle. This cycle begins with the *preparation* of inventory information, continues with its *reporting*, and ends when the technical *review* of the submitted inventory is completed. Elements of the technical review can be applied to stages of the life cycle before and after the submission of an inventory to the secretariat. Improvements made to inventory information as a result of the technical review process should be carried over into the preparation of the next inventory. Experience with the technical review process may lead to revisions being made in the future to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories.

14. The preparation, reporting and review of inventory information should be designed to

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[1] The IPCC Programme in this note refers to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - International Energy Agency (IEA) Programme on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories. By decision of the fourteenth Plenary of the IPCC, the functions of this programme will be assumed by the IPCC Task Force on Inventories, to be located in Japan, in 1999.

support each other. It is intended that the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories, planned for adoption by the COP at its fifth session, will result in GHG inventories being reported in a manner that better facilitates their effective review. It is also intended that the review process will provide feedback that will be used for improving the quality of submitted inventory information and refining the IPCC methods for the preparation of GHG inventories, including any guidance on good practices which may be adopted by the COP.

15. The technical review of GHG inventories could also make use of verification practices already recommended in the IPCC Guidelines, such as the comparison of data with international statistics. These practices could also be expanded to, *inter alia*, cross-country comparisons of emission factors, comparisons with previous submissions or reconstruction of a given inventory. These elements could be valuable tools in assessing the reliability of GHG inventory estimates.

C. Elements of a review process

16. The elements of a technical review of GHG inventories may be split into those undertaken internally by the Party prior to the submission of the inventory and those undertaken externally as part of the review process under the UNFCCC after the inventory has been submitted. Each element could focus on a different aspect of the review and should complement and support the others. The elements of the process presented in this note are the following:

(a) Domestic review process (pre-submission); and

(b) UNFCCC review process (post-submission):

(i) Initial checks;
(ii) Synthesis and assessment of annual inventories; and
(iii) Individual technical reviews of inventories, including those by expert review teams.

Domestic review process

17. Domestic reviews could be undertaken internally by each Party as part of the preparation of GHG inventories prior to their submission to the secretariat. Each step of the preparation of the inventory could be checked for the accuracy of activity data, emission factors and other assumptions, the application of IPCC methods and good practices, the level of documentation included and the adequate estimation of uncertainty ranges on the basis of source/sink and gas.

18. Emission and removal estimates could also be compared with estimates from other sources to identify possible inconsistencies and errors. A useful basis for this quality assurance may be the comparison of current information with information from previous years, from other comparable countries or from alternative estimation methodologies (such as the reference approach for carbon dioxide emissions from fuel combustion). Possible departures from the

IPCC Guidelines or the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories may be another suitable basis for review.

19. The domestic review process would be likely to be a self-governed set of actions, undertaken by government agencies or other organizations on their behalf. It could provide an opportunity for Parties to identify problems and make improvements to their inventories. Such reviews may assist Parties in improving the completeness, transparency, consistency, comparability and accuracy of their submissions, independent of any involvement on the part of other Parties or the secretariat. Such improvements, in addition to raising inventory quality, could enhance the effectiveness of subsequent elements of the review process.

20. It may be sufficient to encourage Parties to use domestic review practices and to provide relevant information to the secretariat with the aim of sharing their experience. It should be noted that some Parties already follow some such practices.

Initial checks (UNFCCC review process)

21. Submitted inventories could be subjected to initial checks by the secretariat when they are received. These checks could be based on a checklist and could include such information as the submission date, coverage of the inventory, and possible departures from the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories and the IPCC Guidelines. Inventory information could be briefly compared with previous submissions to detect potential anomalies. Initial checks could form a first check for the completeness, consistency and transparency of GHG inventories. More in-depth assessments of inventory information would be left for subsequent review stages.

22. The secretariat could post a status report on the UNFCCC Web site to provide information to Parties as to the condition of submitted inventories. This assessment could be based on a checklist and could be compiled in an agreed tabular format. The secretariat could also seek clarification from Parties in relation to issues arising from the initial checks. A timetable could be developed for the secretariat to seek such clarification and for Parties to respond to the secretariat. The status report on the UNFCCC Web site could be updated at regular intervals as inventories and clarifications are received by the secretariat.

23. Such initial checks may help ensure that inventory information is of a minimum acceptable quality and may encourage the inclusion of sufficient information in inventories to enable subsequent elements of the UNFCCC review process to take place. The provision of inventory information by Parties in electronic form, using a common reporting format, would be vital in ensuring that the secretariat is able to prepare and update the status report in a timely manner.

Synthesis and assessment of annual inventories (UNFCCC review process)

24. The synthesis and assessment of annual inventories could be undertaken annually by the

secretariat. The purpose of such synthesis and assessment would be to provide an overview of common methodological issues across the inventories of Annex I Parties, including the technical consistency with UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories and the IPCC Guidelines. This could be made to complement the initial checking procedures described above, by focusing on the accuracy, transparency, comparability and consistency of the inventory information over time and among countries.

25. As part of this synthesis and assessment, activity data could be compared with data from international statistics and aggregate emission factors could be compared among countries.[2] The comparison of disaggregated emission factors with expected ranges given in the IPCC Guidelines might also be useful. Activity data, emission factors and final emission and removal estimates could also be compared with previous submissions in order to detect inconsistencies or the effect of individual factors in reported recalculations.[3]

26. A synthesis and assessment report could be prepared annually by the secretariat, with the assistance of inventory experts nominated by Parties. The involvement of such experts may facilitate information sharing and capacity building among Parties. This report could also be posted on the UNFCCC Web site.

27. This report could highlight different themes in different years at the request of the SBSTA, with the support of experts from the roster on methodological issues. For example, the synthesis and assessment report could evaluate comparisons of emission factors for a particular sector or problems identified in emissions or removals of a given GHG source/sink or category.

28. The synthesis and assessment report could include any inconsistencies, anomalies or unclearness identified in the course of its preparation. This information could form the basis of a list of questions and potential problems to be investigated further as part of the technical review of an individual Party's inventory. The synthesis and assessment report could also identify issues needing further consideration. For example, information on trends over time could be gathered as an indication of the progress being made by Parties in meeting Convention commitments. It could also help identify further methodological issues needing to be resolved.

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[2] There are two general options for providing comparisons of activity data and emission factors in synthesis and assessment reports. Firstly, activity data, aggregate emission factors and emission and removal estimates submitted by a Party could be presented alongside data from its previous submissions, submissions from other Parties, ranges contained in the IPCC Guidelines and data sets from other sources. This approach would facilitate the assessment of the Party's inventory by expert review teams or other interested parties. In principle, this approach would not involve large budgetary implications, as long as inventory information is provided by Parties electronically and using a common reporting format. Secondly, the secretariat could undertake such comparisons itself as part of the preparation of annual synthesis and assessment reports. This option may lead to large budgetary implications for the secretariat because a thorough assessment would require significant human resources.

[3] Relevant information on data comparison is contained in document FCCC/TP/1999/2.

Individual technical reviews of inventories by expert review teams (UNFCCC review process)

29. Individual technical reviews of specific Parties' inventories could be conducted by sending inventory material to experts, through a series of meetings in a single location and through visits to countries involving experts. Indeed, such individual technical reviews may be the only way to assess all inventory information submitted by each Party and, if appropriate, partially reconstruct estimates of emissions and removals. From a technical point of view, direct access to relevant officials and all stored inventory information would improve the capacity to clarify issues or reconstruct estimates. Such reviews may be viewed as a more focused and rigorous version of the review of inventories included in the current in-depth reviews of national communications. Individual technical reviews could be conducted once every two to three years.

30. The main purpose of the individual technical reviews would be to assess the quality of information on GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks. This could include the assessment of national methods used and the corroboration of activity data and emission factors on the basis of information compiled in the course of the synthesis and assessment of annual inventories. It could clarify reasons for identified departures from the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories and the IPCC Guidelines and, as appropriate, partially reconstruct estimates of emissions and removals. In doing so, priority might be given to those sources and sinks with significant emission impacts, rates of change or levels of uncertainty. The assessment of national systems used by Parties and adherence to any good practices agreed upon by the COP could be an important aspect of the review in the future.

31. These reviews could also provide feedback to Parties to help them further improve their institutional capacity for preparing and reporting GHG inventories. Reviews could also benefit the IPCC and the secretariat by providing inputs for developing methodologies and guidelines.

32. The expert teams could be drawn from the methodological roster, from the list of experts nominated for in-depth review teams and from relevant organizations such as the IPCC. Experts could be selected on the basis of their specific expertise in the main sectors of a particular Party's inventory and, to the extent possible, geographical balance. Ways to enhance the knowledge of the experts participating in the review teams might need to be considered. For example, the thorough preparation of expert review teams prior to country visits may be essential, perhaps involving a meeting of the team prior to any country visits. Attempts could be made at this stage to reconstruct parts of the inventory and to identify issues needing clarification.

33. The effectiveness of the individual technical reviews of national inventory information would depend considerably on a number of other factors, such as:

(a) The quality of the submitted information;

(b) The cooperation of each Party; and

(c) Well organized and archived inventory information.

34. Archived inventory information would be necessary to facilitate the timely clarification of inventory information as part of individual technical reviews and any reconstruction of submitted emission or removal estimates by review teams. The information would need to include disaggregated emission factors, activity data and full documentation about how these factors and data have been gathered and aggregated. It would need to include information from the base year to the year of the latest inventory submission, complete with any recalculations made. Archived inventory information would preferably be held at a single location.

35. Guidelines would be needed for the technical review of inventories. The purpose of such guidelines would be to ensure that individual technical reviews are consistent between Parties and effective in providing a thorough and comprehensive technical assessment of inventories.

36. The product of an individual technical review would be an expert report. Expert reports could explicitly highlight areas of adherence to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories and areas of inventories needing improvement. The process of preparing export reports could include an opportunity for Parties to comment.

37. Expert reports could be electronically posted on the UNFCCC Web site and on Web sites of reviewed Parties. The public availability of these reports may be beneficial to Parties as it may facilitate the sharing of experience and capacity building. The availability of such reports on the Web may also assist in preparing expert review teams prior to individual technical reviews.

Operational implications

38. For the period 2000-2001, individual technical reviews of inventories could proceed relatively free of conflict with the broader in-depth reviews of national communications, as few of the latter are anticipated in this period. Following this period, the timing of individual technical reviews of inventories would need to take account of the schedule of in-depth reviews of national communications.

39. The proposed approach to the review of inventories could begin in 2000, assuming the availability of resources for the next biennium. The resources sought in the programme budget for the period 2000-2001 would enable the secretariat to test the proposed approach by redeploying some of the staff involved in the in-depth reviews. The resources in the programme budget are sufficient to perform initial checks, prepare and post status reports on the UNFCCC Web site, prepare synthesis and assessment reports, and undertake a limited number (15-20) of individual technical reviews. The programme budget does not contain resources for the preparation of experts (see paragraph 32).

40. Should this testing period (2000-2001) demonstrate the usefulness of the proposed technical review process, a full-scale UNFCCC review process on inventories would be included in the 2002-2003 programme budget. As in-depth reviews of national communications will also

be underway in that period, there would need to be a new allocation for the purpose of undertaking the UNFCCC review process on inventories. It would only be possible, however, to determine precise resource implications once the testing period is under way.

Links to the Kyoto Protocol

41. The reports resulting from the different elements of an enhanced review process could provide a foundation for the development of similar reports under the Kyoto Protocol. For example, the synthesis and assessment report could be the forerunner of an annual compilation and accounting of GHG inventories and assigned amounts under Article 7.1 of the Kyoto Protocol. Furthermore, the expert reports of individual technical reviews could serve as forerunners of important components of reports to assess the implementation of the commitments of Parties under Article 7.3 of the Kyoto Protocol.

42. Early results of an enhanced technical review process would be useful for the development of guidelines and modalities under the Kyoto Protocol, particularly if they were based on inventory information submitted in accordance with the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on inventories, planned for adoption by the COP at its fifth session (see FCCC/SB/1999/1), and if these guidelines were applied to inventories for the year 1998, as submitted by 15 April 2000.

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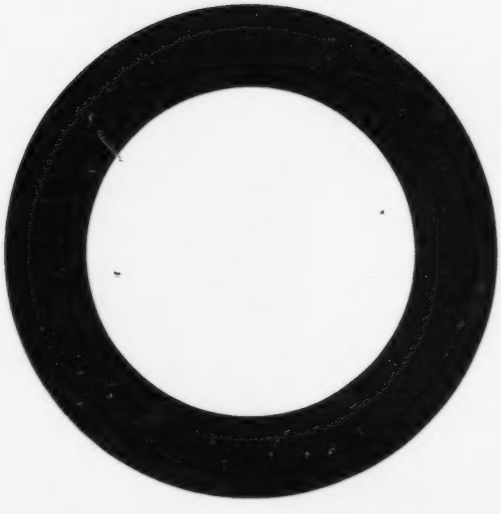

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METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES

OTHER MATTERS

Information on impacts, adaptation and mitigation assessment methods

Note by the secretariat

I. MANDATE AND SCOPE OF THE NOTE

1. At its sixth session, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted, and strongly supported, the work undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the *Handbook on Methods for Climate Change Impacts Assessment and Adaptation Strategies* and the UNEP Collaborating Centre on Environment and Energy at Riso, (UCCEE), Denmark, on assessing mitigation measures and policies. The SBSTA invited these organizations to continue to provide information on their activities to the SBSTA (FCCC/SBSTA/1997/6). These activities are included in the programme of work on methodologies (FCCC/SB/1997/INF.2).

2. In addition, by its decision 9/CP.3 (FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1), the Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the Convention secretariat to continue its work on methodologies for adaptation technologies, in particular that concerning decision tools to evaluate alternative adaptation strategies.

3. This note provides information on how UNEP, in collaboration with the Free University of Amsterdam, and UCCEE have responded to the above mandates. Further information on these activities is contained in the following reports: *The Handbook on Methods for Climate Change Impacts Assessment and Adaptation Strategies* (UNEP/University of Amsterdam); and *Economics of Greenhouse Gas Limitations: Methodological Guidelines* (UCCEE). Further

information on these reports will be made available to Parties at the tenth session. The reports are also available on-line through the University of Amsterdam and the UCCEE web sites respectively.

4. This note also provides information on an informal report, *Decision Tools to Evaluate Alternative Adaptation Strategies,* compiled by the secretariat with the assistance of Stratus Consulting Incorporated.

II. POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE SBSTA

5. The SBSTA may wish to:

(a) Take note of the information provided by UNEP and consider how such information should be used. For example, it may wish to encourage Parties to use the UNEP *Handbook on Methods for Climate Change Impacts Assessment and Adaptation Strategies*, and the UCCEE report, *Economics of Greenhouse Gas Limitations: Methodological Guidelines,* in the preparation of their national communications;

(b) Call this information to the attention of the SBI for use, as appropriate, in any guidance to the Global Environment Facility, as well as in relation to the programme of work on implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention (decision 3/CP.3 and Articles 2.3 and 3.14 of the Kyoto Protocol);

(c) Provide guidance related to the report, *Decision Tools to Evaluate Alternative Adaptation Strategies,* to the secretariat; and

(d) Request Parties to provide information to the secretariat on other important impact assessment and adaptation decision tools.

III. UNEP HANDBOOK ON METHODS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ASSESSMENT AND ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

6. In response to the above mandate, UNEP, in collaboration with the Free University of Amsterdam, developed the *Handbook on Methods for Climate Change Impacts Assessment and Adaptation Strategies* (version 2.0, October, 1998).

7. The Handbook was developed in cooperation with several country study teams. It was supported through the the UNEP/GEF project "Country Case Studies on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Assessments". Twenty-two lead authors provided contributions to the individual chapters of the Handbook.

8. The Handbook expands upon the IPCC *Technical Guidelines for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Adaptations*. It provides an introduction to the wide range of methods available for impact assessment and adaptation strategies.

9. The Handbook comprises two parts. Part I provides guidance on various generic issues related to an assessment of climate change impacts and adaptation strategies including: a series of important questions which must be addressed at the start of any assessment; the selection, development and use of socio-economic as well as climate change scenarios; guidance on conducting integrated assessments of the impacts of climate change and adaptation to climate change; and theoretical explanations of the concept of adaptation, as well as guidance on the generic design of adaptation studies.

10. Part II contains nine sectoral chapters (water resources, coastal zones, agriculture, rangeland/livestock, human health, energy, forest, biodiversity, fisheries). Each chapter provides information and guidance on the range of sectoral methods and approaches related to an assessment of climate change impacts and adaptation strategies. Important models and decision tools for each sector are briefly described. Each chapter also identifies literature that research teams may wish to consult, for example, at the design stage of a study.

IV. UCCEE REPORT ON ECONOMICS OF GREENHOUSE GAS LIMITATIONS: METHODOLOGICAL GUIDELINES

11. UCCEE has completed a two-year UNEP/GEF-funded project: Economics of Greenhouse Gas Limitations. The objectives of the project were to develop national capacity for climate change mitigation studies, in particular by supporting the development of guidelines for methodologies, implementing frameworks and reporting systems.

12. The project has developed, applied and tested methodological guidelines in collaboration with 11 countries (Argentina, Botswana, Ecuador, Estonia, Hungary, Indonesia, Mauritius, Senegal, Tanzania, Vietnam, Zambia). Detailed results for the cost of greenhouse gas limitations as well as the potential for low-cost greenhouse gas limitations (measured using direct costs and benefits) for each country are provided in 11 individual country study reports. These reports will be made available to Parties by UNEP.

13. The report, *Economics of Greenhouse Gas Limitations: Methodological Guidelines*, provides a general overview of the main components of climate change mitigation assessment. These include an outline of key economic concepts, scenario structure, modelling tools, country study assumptions as well as common assumptions applied to greenhouse gas emission reduction policies in the energy, forestry, agriculture, industry and waste management sectors.

V. DECISION TOOLS TO EVALUATE ALTERNATIVE ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

14. The secretariat, with the assistance of Stratus Consulting Incorporated, has initiated a study to systematically identify and describe generic and sectoral decision tools for evaluating adaptation strategies. The study is intended to complement the UNEP Handbook by providing a simple reference guide on important decision tools, specifically to evaluate alternative adaptation strategies. A draft report will be made available as a conference room paper for the tenth session of the SBSTA.

15. Over 50 decision tools have been identified, in the fields of coastal resources, agriculture, water resources and human health, as well as generic decision tools which have been, or could be, used specifically for the evaluation of adaptation strategies. Many of the specific decision tools correspond to the general methods described in the UNEP Handbook. A common template is used to systematically describe key features of each tool including: a general description, appropriate uses, scope, key inputs and outputs, ease of use, training required, training offered, cost, and a list of supporting documentation.